

Amendments to Senate Bill No. 342
3rd Reading Copy

EXHIBIT 2
DATE 3/23/07
SB 342

Requested by Senator Carolyn Squires

For the House Judiciary Committee

Prepared by Greg Petesch
March 21, 2007 (1:45pm)

1. Page 4, line 16.

Insert: "COORDINATION SECTION. Section 5. Coordination instruction. If House Bill No. 668 and [this act] are both passed and approved, then the section in [this act] amending 37-22-301 is void and 37-22-301 is amended to read as follows:

"37-22-301. License requirements -- exemptions. (1) A license applicant shall satisfactorily complete an examination prescribed by the board.

(2) Before an applicant may take the examination, the applicant shall present three letters of reference from licensed social workers, licensed clinical social workers, psychiatrists, or psychologists who have knowledge of the applicant's professional performance and shall demonstrate to the board that the applicant:

(a) has a doctorate or master's degree in social work from a program accredited by the council on social work education or approved by the board;

(b) has completed at least 24 months of supervised post master's degree work experience in psychotherapy, which included 3,000 hours of social work experience, of which at least 1,500 hours were in direct client contact, within the past 5 years; and

(c) abides by the social work ethical standards adopted under 37-22-201.

(3) An applicant who fails the examination may reapply to take the examination.

(4) An applicant is exempt from the examination requirement if the applicant satisfies the board that the applicant is licensed, certified, or registered under the laws of a state or territory of the United States that imposes substantially the same requirements as this chapter and that the applicant has passed an examination similar to that required by the board.

(5) As a prerequisite to the issuance of a license, the board shall require the applicant to submit fingerprints for the purpose of fingerprint checks by the Montana department of justice and the federal bureau of investigation as provided in 37-1-307.

(6) If an applicant has a history of criminal convictions, then pursuant to 37-1-203, the applicant has the opportunity to demonstrate to the board that the applicant is sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust, and if the board

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determines that the applicant is not, the license may be denied."

Insert: "COORDINATION SECTION. Section 6. Coordination instruction. If House Bill No. 668 and [this act] are both passed and approved, then the section amending 37-23-202 in [this act] is void and 37-23-202 is amended to read as follows:

"37-23-202. Licensure requirements. (1) An applicant for licensure must have satisfactorily:

(a) completed a planned graduate program of 60 semester hours, primarily counseling in nature, 6 semester hours of which were earned in an advanced counseling practicum that resulted in a graduate degree from an institution accredited to offer a graduate program in counseling;

(b) completed 3,000 hours of counseling practice supervised by a licensed professional counselor or licensed member of an allied mental health profession, at least half of which was postdegree. The applicant must have each supervisor endorse the application for licensure, attesting to the number of hours supervised.

(c) passed an examination prepared and administered by:

(i) the national board of certified counselors; or

(ii) the national academy of certified clinical mental health counselors; and

(d) completed an application.

(2) The board shall provide by rule for licensure of a person who possesses a graduate degree that consists of a minimum of 45 semester hours primarily related to counseling and that is from an institution accredited to offer a graduate program in counseling, by specifying the additional graduate credit hours necessary to fulfill the requirements of subsection (1)(a) in counseling courses in an approved program within a period of 5 years.

(3) As a prerequisite to the issuance of a license, the board shall require the applicant to submit fingerprints for the purpose of fingerprint checks by the Montana department of justice and the federal bureau of investigation as provided in 37-1-307.

(4) If an applicant has a history of criminal convictions, then pursuant to 37-1-203, the applicant has the opportunity to demonstrate to the board that the applicant is sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust, and if the board determines that the applicant is not, the license may be denied."

Renumber: subsequent section

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